



Department of Medical Assistance Services  
600 East Broad Street, Suite 1300  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

[www.dmas.virginia.gov](http://www.dmas.virginia.gov)

# MEDICAID PROVIDER MANUAL UPDATE

TO: All Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) providers participating in the Virginia Medical Assistance Program, Managed Care Organizations, and holders of the EPSDT Supplement MEMO: Update

FROM: Gregg A. Pane, MD, MPA, Director  
Department of Medical Assistance Services DATE: August 17, 2010

SUBJECT: New Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) Inpatient Services Manual to be included as part of the EPSDT Supplement

The purpose of this memorandum is to update providers on the changes to the Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) Supplement. With this update, program guidance is now being expanded to those specialized (non-state plan) services that are provided through the EPSDT program on a routine basis. The EPSDT Supplement contains distinct manuals that assist the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) in defining the scope of services offered through the EPSDT program and assist the managed care organizations with clarifying operational requirements for the EPSDT specialized services. The newest part of the EPSDT Supplement will define the scope of services that are available as EPSDT Inpatient Services.

The EPSDT benefit is Medicaid's comprehensive and preventive child health program for children under the age of 21. Federal law (42 CFR § 441.50 et seq) requires a broad range of outreach, coordination, and health services under EPSDT distinct from general state Medicaid program requirements.

Any treatment service which is not otherwise covered under the State's Plan for Medical Assistance can be covered for a child through EPSDT as long as the service is:

- allowable under the Social Security Act, Section 1905(a);
- is provided by a qualified provider enrolled with the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS); and
- determined by DMAS or its agent as medically necessary.

## **EPSDT Inpatient Services**

The EPSDT program provides inpatient services when the individual requires intensive treatment and also requires management of multiple health conditions that cannot be effectively managed in a less intensive treatment setting. EPSDT inpatient services may be provided to treat a variety of complex health, mental health and neurological conditions that are generally prohibited as a primary reason for admission in the existing Medicaid state plan services. EPSDT inpatient services may be provided in inpatient settings based on the

individual's complex healthcare needs. Individuals must be medically unstable due to medical conditions that require inpatient services to manage, treat and stabilize the medical condition and facilitate a return to a lower level of care. Some examples of conditions that may benefit from EPSDT inpatient treatment are: eating disorders, complex neurological conditions, acquired brain injury and other conditions with medical instability being the prime reason for admission.

## **PROVIDER PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS**

EPSDT Inpatient Services may be provided by acute care inpatient hospitals, rehabilitation hospitals, rehabilitation units of acute care hospitals and freestanding psychiatric facilities.

All providers enrolled in the Virginia Medicaid Program must adhere to the conditions of participation outlined in their individual provider agreements. All DMAS providers are prohibited from charging enrollees for DMAS covered services. The enrollee is not responsible for payment of medical services by any facility while under care at the enrolled provider's facility.

### **Freestanding Psychiatric Hospitals**

Reimbursement is available for FAMIS Plus/Medicaid enrollees under the age of 21 who receive psychiatric services in a freestanding psychiatric hospital accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO). The facility must also meet state licensure requirements.

### **Inpatient Rehabilitation and General Acute Care Hospitals**

Fee for Service FAMIS Plus/Medicaid enrollees under the age of 21 may receive inpatient specialized services approved by the EPSDT program in rehabilitation hospitals and in rehabilitation units of acute care hospitals.

A hospital is eligible for participation in the Virginia Medical Assistance Program if it meets one of the following criteria:

- Is certified by the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) as meeting the conditions for participation under Title XVIII of Public Law 89-97
- Is limited to an age group not eligible for Title XVIII benefits, but is accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation for Hospitals and has a Utilization Review Plan that meets the Title XVIII and Title XIX standards for utilization review

## **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

EPSDT inpatient services are available to Medicaid/FAMIS Plus enrollees under 21 years of age. **EPSDT inpatient specialized services are available only to individuals who meet medical necessity criteria for inpatient treatment.**

**MCO Service Requests** - Inpatient services are a covered service for Managed Care Organization (MCO) enrollees. Authorization for inpatient specialized treatment services of MCO enrollees must be requested through the recipient's respective MCO by the individual's physician. The Physician must contact the MCO's medical management office to initiate the authorization process for inpatient specialized services. As mentioned above, while inpatient services are a covered service under the MCO contracts, EPSDT criteria does not apply to FAMIS children enrolled with the MCO.

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MCO Addresses and Telephone Numbers can be found on the DMAS website at:  
[http://www.dmas.virginia.gov/downloads/pdfs/mc-medicaid\\_MCO\\_Addr\\_Tel.pdf](http://www.dmas.virginia.gov/downloads/pdfs/mc-medicaid_MCO_Addr_Tel.pdf)

### **COPIES OF MANUALS**

DMAS publishes electronic and printable copies of its Provider Manuals and Medicaid Memoranda on the DMAS website at [www.dmas.virginia.gov](http://www.dmas.virginia.gov). Refer to the “DMAS Content Menu” column on the left-hand side of the DMAS web page for the “Provider Services” link, which takes you to the “Manuals, Memos and Communications” link. This link opens up a page that contains all of the various communications to providers, including Provider Manuals and Medicaid Memoranda. The Internet is the most efficient means to receive and review current provider information. If you do not have access to the Internet or would like a paper copy of a manual, you can order it by contacting Commonwealth-Martin at 1-804-780-0076. A fee will be charged for the printing and mailing of the manuals and manual updates that are requested.

### **“HELPLINE”**

The “HELPLINE” is available to answer questions Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except on state holidays. The “HELPLINE” numbers are:

1-804-786-6273	Richmond area and out-of-state long distance
1-800-552-8627	All other areas (in-state, toll-free long distance)

Please remember that the “HELPLINE” is for provider use only. Please have your Medicaid Provider Identification Number available when you call.

Attached Number of Pages: (1)

**EPSDT SUPPLEMENT — INPATIENT SERVICES**  
**REVISION CHART**  
**August 17, 2010**

**SUMMARY OF REVISIONS**

<b>MANUAL SECTION</b>	<b>MATERIAL REVISED</b>	<b>NEW PAGE NUMBER(S)</b>	<b>REVISED PAGE(S)</b>	<b>REVISION DATE</b>
EPSDT Inpatient Services		Entire Section	New Section	08/17/2010

**FILING INSTRUCTIONS**

<b>MANUAL SECTION</b>	<b>DISCARD</b>	<b>INSERT</b>	<b>OTHER INSTRUCTIONS</b>
EPSDT Inpatient Services		New EPSDT Inpatient Specialized Services Document	New Section